

agencies of government charged with protecting the food supply and the rights of consumers have paradoxically limited the information to make healthful choices in an area that means a great deal to over 100 million people.

And so, an historic agreement was finally reached in the Congress this year that balances their interests with the Nation's continued interest in guaranteeing the quality and safety of foods and products available to consumers. This agreement was embodied in S. 784, legislation sponsored in the Senate by Senator Orrin Hatch and Senator Tom Harkin, in the House by Congressman Bill Richardson, and passed with the help of Senator Edward Kennedy, Congressman John Dingell, Congressman Henry Waxman, and scores of cosponsors in the House and Senate.

Simply said, the legislation amends the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to establish new standards for the regulation of dietary supplements including vitamins, minerals, and herbal remedies.

The passage of this legislation speaks to the determination of the legislators involved, and I appreciate their work. But most important, it speaks to the diligence with which an unofficial army of nutritionally conscious people worked democratically to change the laws in an area deeply important to them. In an era of greater consciousness among people about the impact of what they eat on how they live, indeed, how long they live, it is appropriate that we have finally reformed the way Government treats consumers and these supplements in a way that encourages good health.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,  
October 25, 1994.

NOTE: S. 784, approved October 25, was assigned Public Law No. 103-417. This statement was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 26.

## Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt in Cairo *October 26, 1994*

### *Middle East Peace Process*

*Q.* What's your message for Chairman Arafat this morning, Mr. President?

*The President.* Well, first of all, I'm delighted to start this trip with President Mubarak. After all, Egypt has been the leader in the peace process all the way and has set a standard for many years now and has helped all the parties, including the United States, to pursue this peace process.

I'm looking forward to having a chance to talk with the President. And then we're going to talk with Chairman Arafat about what we can do to keep the process going and the impor-

tance of condemning terrorism and working together to go forward.

*Q.* Do you have any ideas on the subject?

*The President.* A few. We'll be talking about it.

Have you been to sleep, Helen [Helen Thomas, United Press International]? Have you all had any sleep?

*Q.* No.

Note: The exchange began at 8 a.m. at El-Qubbeh Palace. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.